



**Florida SouthWestern State College**

**Cardiovascular Technology**

**Advisory Board Agenda**

Tuesday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024

9:00-11:00am EST

FSW Lee Campus – A 207

*Platforms – Zoom*

[Link](#)/Meeting ID: 874 2290 2827/Passcode: 517656

TOPIC	DESCRIPTION
<p><b>WELCOME &amp; INTRODUCTIONS</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Program Faculty &amp; Staff</li> <li>• FSW Administration &amp; Staff</li> <li>• Clinical Affiliates</li> <li>• Community Allies</li> <li>• Current Students</li> </ul>
<p><b>OVERVIEW OF GRADUATE OUTCOMES</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of 2024 Graduates/Outcomes to be discussed</li> <li>• Number (1991-2024 = 385, 2024 = 11)</li> <li>• Placement statistics (2021 = 9/10 employed 90%, 2022 = 10/12 employed 83%, 2023 = 9/9 employed 100%)</li> <li>• RCIS Registry statistics (1991-2021 = 99%, 2021 = 9/10 (one has not sat), passed 100%, 2022 = 12/12 passed 100% 2023 = 9/9 passed 100%)</li> </ul>
<p><b>2023 GRADUATING &amp; 2024/25 CLASS PROJECTIONS</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2024 = 11 graduating</li> <li>• Pinning Ceremony is on June 21 5PM (At FSW)               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 2024 = 11 traditional students (14 with 3 recycles)</li> <li>2. ~ 14 first years moving into their second year                   <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 14 potential graduates for May 2025</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. 2026 = 26 seats</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
<p><b>HUMAN RESOURCES</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Instructional Faculty &amp; Staff               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Open Position                   <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Professor of CVT</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Clinical Associates</li> </ol> </li> </ul>

**PHYSICAL RESOURCES**

- Received 3<sup>rd</sup> Mentice Simulator
  - Reviewing structural heart and peripheral cases
- **Feedback Required:** We are working to create a simulation package that healthcare organization can use to help train their new staff. What do you need to help train your staff?
  - Mentice Simulators
  - Right Heart Simulators
  - Lab Space

**CLINICAL RESOURCES & CLINICAL COORDINATOR REPORT**

- Total Clinical sites (18 total) ranging from Tampa to Mount Sinai.
- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
  1. Minimum vs maximum clinical student placement
    1. 4 completed
- Equipment
  1. Cath packs to be donated every Fall
- Clinical Experiences Report
- Clinical Preceptor Training for the Invasive Cardiovascular Technology Professional
  1. CEUs

**CURRICULUM/PROGRAM UPDATES**

- Overhaul of CVT Curriculum (Approved May 2023)
  1. Next cohort graduates in May 2025
- Proposal of Non-Invasive CVT Program (For Fall 2025 start)
  1. Vascular and Adult Echo
    1. Program Instructor Position-RDCS/RVT Credentials
  2. Initial cohort = 20 students
  3. Total intake for CVT program = 46

**MEDICAL DIRECTORS PERSPECTIVE**

- **Dr. Orlando Escárcega**, Florida Heart Associates, Medical Director

**STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND EXPERIENCE**

- Lambda Nu – Chartered May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> cohort
  - 3 inductees – June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024
- Student Paid Internships - Discussion

**STUDENT PERSPECTIVE**

- Current Students – Cohort 2024/Cohort 2025

**PUBLIC MEMBER INPUT/AHA REPRESENTATIVE**

- Community outreach
- AHA Heart Walk
- Heart Disease Awareness Month - Cape Coral Rocks

**JRC-CVR/CAAHEP ACCREDITATION STATUS**

- CAAHEP/JRC-CVT Continuing Accreditation Reaffirmed July 2019
- Continuing to meet and/or exceed thresholds for Annual Report of Current Status
  1. National Certification Pass Rate – 100%

**CONTINUING  
EDUCATION**

- 2. Positive Placement Rate – 100%
- 3. Working to improve
- Retention Rate – 62.26%
- Bachelors of Cardiopulmonary Science – Changing
- Bachelors of Science in Healthcare Leadership
  - 1. Three Tracks
    - 1. Organizational Management
    - 2. Behavioral Health Sciences
    - 3. Health Data and Information Sciences
- Preceptor Training Certificate – CEUs through ACVP
  - 1. <https://fsw.instructure.com/eportfolios/39980>
- Simulation Outreach
- Clinic site feedback

**DISCUSSION**

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS  
OR CONCERNS  
ADJOURNMENT**

**Florida SouthWestern State College**

**Cardiovascular Technology**

**Advisory Board Minutes**

Tuesday, June 13, 2023

**A. Attendees:**

1. Tatiana Merilus, Student, Class of 2024
2. Arianna Collins, Student, Secretary, Class of 2024
3. Taylor Lobel, Student, President, Class of 2024
4. Dr. Orlando Escarcega, Cardiologist, Florida Heart Associates & CVT Program  
Medical Director
5. Kari O'Dell, Student, Class of 2025
6. Ray Lenius, RCIS, Faculty, Cardiovascular Technology
7. Darrin Crosby, RRT, RCIS, Lead Technologist Tampa General
8. Lis Rodriguez, Student, Class of 2024
9. Halley Bennett, RCIS, Clinical Coordinator, Cardiovascular Technology
10. Bonnie LaFemina, Interim Associate Dean
11. Alberto Mas, RCIS, Student, Vice President, Class of 2024
12. Clemencia Gil, Student, Class of 2025
13. Brian Crosby, RN, RCIS, Cath Lab Director, Lee Health
14. Alex Schimel, JD, Director of Academic Advising
15. Carlton Hartwell, ACS, RDCS, FASE, Director of Cardiovascular Service Lee Health
16. Russell Horrocks, RN, BSN, MHSA, System Director of Cardiovascular Services
17. Karla Vasquez, Student, Class of 2024
18. Frank Calderon, Student, Class of 2024
19. Sierra Prince, Student, Class of 2024
20. Yvelize Guerrero, Student, Class of 2024
21. Jeremy Fletcher, MBA-HM, BSN, CENP, Executive Director Cardiovascular Services  
Jupiter Medical Center
22. Lena Scott, RCIS, Program Director, Cardiovascular Technology
23. Tamra Pacheco, Med, Health Professions Coordinator

**B. Called to order**

- a. 9:10 AM

**C. Introductions**

- a. Introductions were made by all attendees starting with Director Lena Scott, Professor Halley Bennett, Professor Ray Lenius, Tamra Pacheco, and Bonnie LaFemina – Health Professions staff followed by Alex Schimel in Academic Advising, students, and clinical site staff.

**D. Overview of Graduate Outcomes**

- a. Number of graduates (1991-2024 = 385, 2024 = 11)
- b. Placement statistics (2021 = 9/10 employed 90%, 2022 = 10/12 employed 83%, 2023 = 9/9 employed 100%)
- c. RCIS Registry statistics (1991-2021 = 99%, 2021 = 9/10 (one has not sat), passed 100%, 2022 = 12/12 passed 100% 2023 = 9/9 passed 100%)

**E. 2023 Graduating & 2024/25 Class Projections**

- a. We have 11 students graduating this summer and entering the workforce.
- b. We will host our annual pinning ceremony on June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024 at 5 PM on the Lee campus. All clinical affiliates are invited to attend.
- c. We have 14 first-year students moving into their second year.
  - i. Potentially 14 graduates for May 2025.
- d. We are accepting up to 26 students for the next Fall cohort.

**F. Human Resources**

- a. Professor Ray Lenius is retiring after 13 years here at FSW. He will become an Adjunct and help out in both the CVT and Bachelors programs.
- b. We are looking to fill Professor Lenius' role preferably with someone who has a master's degree. An RCIS with a bachelor's degree will also be accepted.
  - o Professor Lenius is also involved with the accrediting body and will continue to work on their committee performing site visits.
- c. We need Clinical Associates and will do whatever is possible to recruit them, such as visiting them at the hospital on their lunch break if permissible.
- d. We have increased our pay for Clinical Associates based on the years of experience.

## **G. Physical Resources**

- a. We received our 3<sup>rd</sup> Mentice simulator and are exploring the software for reviewing structural heart and peripheral cases.
- b. Our clinical partners were asked if there were any specific training needed by the hospital staff. If so, the program is working to create a program to offer our simulators and classrooms for their training purposes. The money provided will help cover the cost of new software.

## **Clinical Resources**

The program has a total clinical site (18 total) ranging from Tampa to Mount Sinai in Miami.

- a. The program has worked hard to obtain Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) to help with clinical placement.
  - i. The MOU addresses the minimum versus maximum clinical student placement at each facility.
    - 1. So far only 4 have been completed
- b. Equipment
  - i. The program is asking the clinical sites to donate cardiac catheterization packs every Fall.
    - 1. These packs are important because they allow students to practice with up-to-date equipment.
- c. Clinical Experiences Report
  - i. Clinical experience reports will be sent to each clinic site after the student's last day in clinic.
    - 1. These reports allow students to provide anonymous feedback to the clinic sites.
- d. The program will continue to offer Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for preceptors who complete the Clinical Preceptor Training for the Invasive Cardiovascular Technology Professional. The program is able to offer the CEUs through its school affiliation with the Alliance of Cardiovascular Professionals (ACVP).
  - i. The school will cover the cost of the primary preceptor's membership dues with the ACVP.

- ii. The preceptor must complete the training created by the program.
- iii. Once the training is completed the application must be sent in 30 days before there is any engagement with the students for approval.
- iv. Upon approval, the CEUs will be calculated based on the contact hours with the students, which are pulled from Trajecsys.
  - 1. ACVP uses a conversion table to calculate the amount of contact hours into CEUs.

#### **H. Curriculum/Program Updates**

- a. The CVT curriculum was updated to remove all RET courses.
  - a. This was approved last May.
  - b. The first-year CVT students are under the new curriculum plan and will be graduating in May versus June.
  - c. Students stated that CVT 1000 makes it easier to understand the anatomy and refresh on what is taught in Anatomy and Physiology I.
  - d. The program is working to improve the retention rate and the curriculum change will assist in that effort. The previous retention rate was 62%.
- b. A proposal has gone forward for the Non-Invasive CVT program to start in Fall 2025.
  - a. The program will include both vascular ultrasound and adult echocardiography.
  - b. The primary instructor will have both credentials to teach the program (RDCS/RVT)
  - c. The program looks to take in a total of 20 students to start, which would increase the CVT program total intake to 46 students each Fall.
  - d. The Dean has submitted a grant application on behalf of the program for both general ultrasound and CVT. Lee Health has offered to support the program financially, and we are waiting on more information to come. We are also asking the foundation for financial support.

#### **I. Medical Director Perspective**

- a. The Medical Director stated that the current students have a better understanding of safety. We have cases that are increasing in complexity and it is important that the students are aware and kept abreast of these coming changes. Overall, the current cohort of students have performed well.

#### **J. Student Engagement**

- c. We have established Lambda Nu, an honor society for the radiologic and imaging sciences, and it was chartered on May 2, 2023. We had 3 inductees in the first year and 3 more for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year.
- d. The program is seeking feedback on student-paid internships. Specifically, Lee Health is looking into a program to employ students at the end of the program.
  - a. The JRCCVT states that hospitals must show that students are not clocked in for work as employees during their clinical hours and students cannot be substituted for staff.
    - i. It is important to the program that the student's clinical hours are protected and are completely separate from employee hours. Clinical hours may be front-loaded and completed before any employed hours are to take place.
    - ii. Our students complete 650 – 900 clinical hours in the program. This is apart from the simulated hours.
    - iii. Some hospitals offer sign-on bonuses for a 2-year commitment and the students can work there when needed and available.
    - iv. Professor Lenius mentioned that the JRCCVT states that we must show competency and that is all that is needed to work. There are no set hours to graduate, but the student must be competent to complete the program.

#### **K. Student Perspective**

- a. Class of 2024
  - a. Hands-on is critical for the preparation
  - b. Program provides greater knowledge in the field after curriculum changes.



- c. Pharmacology has better prepared the students for the field since restructuring.
  - d. Exciting to work with new students and be more hands-on with equipment.
  - e. Students are more prepared for the clinical environment
  - f. The RET course material is not covered in the board exam. It was nice to have the knowledge but would rather have more time for CVT material.
  - g. There are many questions on the exam pertaining to peripheral and structural heart.
- b. Class of 2025
- a. Learning how to put the equipment together in the first year is important
  - b. Enjoyed having the 2<sup>nd</sup> year students come into the class and having a shadow day
  - c. There is a lot of information and pharmacology is an advanced science and we need to go into more detail.
  - d. We need to be better prepared for exams and what to focus on.
  - e. Students need to complete Anatomy & Physiology II before the program to be better prepared.

**L. Public Member Input/ AHA Representative**

- a. The program tries to make sure there are ample opportunities for community service and outreach for the students while they are enrolled in the CVT program.
- b. The American Heart Association Walk is taking place on December 9th. It is a 3-mile walk from 8 to 11 and the proceeds go to heart research and kits for CPR and Diabetes.
- c. Cape Coral Rocks was not held this year.

**M. JRCCVT/CAAHEP Accreditation Status**

- a. The program is not up for accreditation until 2026.
- b. The program is continuing to meet and/or exceed thresholds for the Annual Report of Current Status
  - i. National Certification Pass Rate – 100%
  - ii. Positive Placement Rate – 100%

- c. We are working to improve the program's retention rate, which is currently 62.26%.
  - i. Removing the RET courses and restructuring the pharmacology course has already been shown to help with this.

#### **N. Continuing Education**

- a. The bachelor's degree in Cardiopulmonary Science will be changing and will no longer be offered to CVT students since it will have a narrow focus on Respiratory Care due to accreditation standards.
- b. There is a new bachelor's degree in development that includes tracks for multiple programs in health professions and the CVT students can enroll in that in the next 2 years.
  - a. Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Leadership
    - i. Three Tracks:
      1. Organizational Management
      2. Behavioral Health Sciences
      3. Health Data and Information Sciences
  - b. Director Scott explained that there was a survey sent to graduates and clinical affiliates to see if there was interest in creating a track specific to the cardiovascular profession. Although there was interest, we have to show there is an abundance of students who would enroll in the program to bring in enough revenue to run the courses. With the tracks offered, students in the CVT program are eligible to obtain their bachelors degree which will still give them opportunities for career advancement and growth. At this time, the CVT program will support the new bachelor's degree as proposed.

#### **O. Clinical Site Feedback/ Discussion**

- a. Lee Health is happy with students and needs feedback from the students to improve the training on their end.
- b. They know the importance of the program to the area and workforce.
- c. Annual surveys will be sent out to the students for feedback in a couple weeks.
- d. Darren at Tampa General stated that students are well prepared and the

- ones they hire do well.
- e. FSW does a good job with clinical placements with a wide range of what is out there to learn.
  - f. Jupiter facility has not had any students there recently and welcomes more.
  - g. The relationship has been wonderful and looking forward to more.

**P. Adjournment**

- a. Meeting adjourned at 10:10.